

PATENT



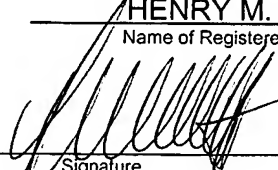
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No.: BOELKENS

| | |
|--|---|
| In re Application of: |) |
| ULRICH BOELKENS ET AL. |) |
| Appl. No.: 10/764,983 |) |
| Filed: January 26, 2004 |) |
| For: METHOD FOR PARAMETERIZING SOFTWARE PROCESS SIGNAL CONNECTIONS OF A DRIVE UNIT |) |

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450", on <u>March 10, 2004</u> . | |
| (Date) | |
| <u>HENRY M. FEIEREISEN</u> | |
| Name of Registered Representative | |
|  | <u>3-10-2004</u> |
| Signature | Date of Signature |

S I R:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant wishes to call the attention of the Examiner to the following references A) to I) which were cited in an Office Action issued by the German Patent Office with regard to the corresponding German patent application No. 103 02 799.8. Applicant does not admit that any of the cited documents constitutes prior art against the pending application.

| | Country: | Patent or Appl. No: | Patentee or Applicant: | Issue or Filing Date: |
|----|----------|------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| A) | Germany | DE 198 50 324 A1 | Kirmair et al. | 05-04-2000 |
| B) | Germany | DE 695 15 011T2 | Hodorowski et al. | 09-14-2000 |
| C) | PCT | WO 01/29625A2 | Humpert et al. | 04-26-2001 |
| D) | Germany | DE 196 30 415A1 | Gatzemeier et al. | 01-15-1998 |
| E) | Germany | DE 199 49 884A1 | Kapinus et al. | 06-07-2001 |
| F) | Germany | DE 42 09 168 C2 | Neumann et al. | 08-31-1995 |
| G) | Germany | DE 198 43 492A1 | Mederer et al. | 01-13-2000 |
| H) | Germany | DE 101 08 962 A1 | Klopfer et al. | 09-12-2002 |
| I) | Germany | DE 199 14 206 A1 | Kleyer et al. | 07-13-2000 |

Copies of these references are submitted herewith along with form PTO-1449. The Examiner is requested to initial the attached form PTO-1449 and to return a copy of the initialed document to the undersigned as an indication that the attached references have been considered and made of record.

☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 1.53(d), so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 1.491 in an international application, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, so that no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 is due.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the issuance of a first office but before issuance of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311.

☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted after the mailing of a final action or a notice of allowance, but before payment of the issue fee.

☐ The undersigned submits the following statement requesting consideration of this statement:

The undersigned hereby states:

☐ That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement;

☐ That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the statement after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

☐ The fee of \$180.00 set forth in 1.17(p).

☐ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee as set forth in 1.17(p), and any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

[X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-0502.

In order to satisfy the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance of each item of information, applicant notes with respect to any information that is not in English language as follows:

Reference A) describes a process based on the use of a data processing system for automatic conversion of a neutral control technology planning event into a concrete process control system. The process uses IT based imaging mechanisms and steps for conversion of function components with the help of the knowledge editors and storage of the results in the plant, input and storage of a target specific control technology system, entry of target system neutral structures and, output of the results generated by the previous steps.

Reference B) describes a highly distributed industrial control system employing a number of separate control modules communicating together on a shared communications medium. Each module emulates one or more basic electrical parts having electrical terminals, such as switches and relays, and transmits production messages indicating the state of the parts, such as conducting current or not. A connection list for each part in each control module defines message identifiers of other parts whose production messages are received by the control module and interpreted as current flow to one or more of its parts. The control system is programmed by generating a schematic on a programming terminal showing connections of terminals on symbols of the parts

such as would represent actual wiring of the emulated parts. A parts layout diagram is used in conjunction with the schematic to identify each part to a physical module.

Reference C) describes a method of drafting a program code of control and instrumentation technology for operating a plant by means of industrial components. The program code includes a plurality of sub-plans. The program code of the control and instrumentation technology and the industrial components are represented together in a machine-readable technology plan. The sub-plans, especially the functional plans of the individual plane, are automatically generated from the technology plan, and the individual sequences of the program code are generated from the functional plans.

Reference D) describes a software tool including several typicals, corresponding to the plant to be planned, deposited in a library, which represent different kinds of function arrangements of the plant. Parameter data records of the used typicals are processed through a further software tool, which is provided for the formulation of an automation task in form of a programming language for automation instruments and/or usage and observation instruments. The programming language is provided in form of a function flow graphic, an instruction list or a contact plan. Each typical is associated with a nominal solution, deposited in a further library, and consisting of one or a group of interrelated software function building blocks. The software tool copies, according to the plant planning, each typical, in which a programmer enters a parameter data record. The parameter data records are entered in the further software tool, which copies

automatically the nominal solutions associated with these typicals, and which provides the nominal solutions with the respective parameter data records.

Reference E) corresponds to reference C).

Reference F) describes a processing method involving setting the parameters that relate to a specific application. The system has a base operation program that connects with program modules. Each module relates to a specific system function group. Access to the program modules is provided by different levels by a hierarchical system (A,B,C). One level (A) has modules containing a facility for selecting operation data used to adjust the stored model of the system. A second level (B) provides access information and the third acts as a generator for operational data.

Reference G) describes method of planning, constructing, and/or maintaining a technical plant or installation having a multitude of components, and in which for each component or piece of equipment, a first set (SP) of interface parameters (W,DN,B) is put in place. For a given type of plant (A) or installation, the components for drawing up a building plan for the plant etc. are selected such that a first given component, and each additional component to be connected to this component, is determined on the basis of its first set (SP) and on the basis of the respective set (SP) of those components already formulated in the building plan. Circuit engineering criteria, such as material- and operating engineering-parameters, and/or geometric parameters are used for the first set (SP) of interfacing parameters (W,DN,B) for each component.

Reference H) describes a method for programming a safety controller, with the following steps: determination of logical connections between input signals on the safety controller and allocation of logical products to output signals from the safety controller. The determination of the connections and the allocation is thus achieved by pre-defined function-specific program modules, selected from a number of such program modules. Each selected program module is uniquely allocated to a defined function group. A first function group includes program modules which accept input signals to the safety controller and produce first intermediate parameters, based thereon. A second function group includes program modules which logically connect the first intermediate parameters to each other and produce second intermediate parameters based thereon. A third function group includes program modules, which allocate the second intermediate parameters to the output signals of the safety controller.

Reference I) describes a method for automatically determining the process image addresses of the individual channel of interconnected devices in a process imaging zone of a store. The number and arrangement of the devices as well as the functionality of each device are specified by initially determining the number of the channel of each device, and establishing the required blocks of the processes imaging zone for each device for this number of channels. From this block a process imaging address is assigned to each channel of the device.

The above-identified application discloses and claims an invention patentable over this prior art.

Docket No.: BOELKENS
Serial No.: 10/764,983

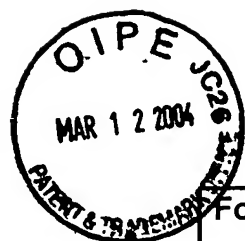
Entry of the references above set forth into the file of the above application
is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

By: 

Henry M. Feiereisen
Agent for Applicant
Reg. No. 31,084

Date: March 10, 2004
350 Fifth Avenue
Suite 4714
New York, N.Y. 10118
(212) 244-5500
HMF:be



Form PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION**

| | | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|
| Attorney's Docket No. BOELKENS | Applicant Siemens Aktiengesellschaft | Appl. No. 10/764,983 |
| Filing Date January 26, 1004 | Group | Examiner |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date, if appropriate |
|------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-----------------------------|
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Subclass | Translation |
|--|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|
| | DE19850423A1 | 05-04-2000 | Germany | | | |
| | DE69515011T2 | 09-14-2000 | Germany | | | |
| | WO 01/29625 | 04-26-2001 | PCT | | | |
| | DE19630415A1 | 01-15-1998 | Germany | | | |
| | DE19949884A1 | 06-07-2001 | Germany | | | |
| | DE4209168C2 | 08-31-1995 | Germany | | | |
| | DE19843492A1 | 01-13-2000 | Germany | | | |
| | DE10108962A1 | 09-12-2002 | Germany | | | |
| | DE19914206A1 | 07-13-2000 | Germany | | | |
| | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

| | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Examiner: | Date considered: |
|------------------|-------------------------|

*Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.